

TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Submitted by Diane Stevens, Town Secretary

July 27, 2015

Present: Mr. John Goerlach, Chairman
Mr. Robert Ericson
Mr. Henry Sayers
Mr. Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator

Warrants: Warrant Signed

The meeting was opened by John Goerlach at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Ron Tinkham came in front of the Board to report that there has been no activity in the last two weeks relative to work to be completed on Sunrise Street by the Water District. Mr. Goerlach asked DPW Director William Decelles how things were progressing on Orebed Road. DPW Director Decelles said that things are going well and work is progressing. Mr. Goerlach asked DPW Director Decelles when the boring company would begin work. Mr. Sieloff said that the award letter went out and work will possibly begin next week. DPW Director Decelles said that backfilling takes a lot of time and they may try to get a small dozer to accommodate this work. DPW Decelles said that the project is under budget.

Permit(s) / Contract(s) / Use of Town Property or Notification to Town of Community Event / Appointment(s)

Arizona Pizza – Issuance of Revised All Alcoholic Beverage License

Approval was received from the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission for the Alteration of Premises application submitted by The Virginia Company, Inc. d/b/a Arizona Pizza. Mr. Goerlach stated that he would like automatic closures on the outside gates and the Town will hold the license until the work is completed at which time someone from the Town would inspect that the work was completed. Motion 15-116. Motion made by Robert Ericson to issue a revised On Premise All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages License to The Virginia Company, Inc. d/b/a Arizona Pizza to include an outdoor patio area with automatic gate closures, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#1]

Mr. Ericson stated that he believes the Brookhouse has a non-conforming front entrance which is a possible hazard. Mr. Sieloff asked Mr. Ericson to send him a picture which he will give to the Building Inspector for his review.

Ramblewild – Full Moon Events

Jay Sabin, Counsel for Ramblewild submitted an email to the Town Administrator together with a Notification to Town of Community Event relative to upcoming events at Ramblewild on July 31st, August 29th, and October 31st. Attorney Sabin stated that the entertainment in July will be a single man with a guitar and the park is looking to obtain an entertainment license. These events are called “Full Moon” events and the park will have later than normal hours of operation. Attorney Sabin stated that there should not be any issues with the Town’s noise ordinance and that the event will be from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. No specifics could be given of what will take place on the October. Mr. Ericson would like to wait to see what is planned for October before issuing any type of license. Motion 15-115. Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Entertainment License for Ramblewild for the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for July 31, 2015 and August 29, 2015, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted. [#2]

Child Resources of the Berkshires – Book Mobile – August 7th

Child Care of the Berkshires submitted an Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property relative to a free book mobile service which they would like to have in the Town Hall parking lot on Friday, August 7, 2015 from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. Motion 15-117. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property of Child Care of the Berkshires for August 7, 2015 from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m., seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#3]

Deb Decelles – Senior Tax Work-off Program Appointment

Mr. Sieloff requested additional resources for the Town Clerk’s office and Mrs. Decelles was contacted to help move some projects forward. Mr. Sieloff told the Board that this would be beneficial with little cost to the Town. Mr. Goerlach believed that the Senior Work-off Program was only for retirees. Mr. Sieloff stated that it was for any

resident 60 years or older and there was no one on the list who could perform this type of work. He stated that the former Clerk's position had more hours and this assistance will help in that department. Mr. Goerlach stated that he would like to hold off to check the rules to see if Mrs. Decelles does qualify. Mr. Sieloff said that he will have the COA Director come to next meeting so Board could ask questions.

Motion 15-118. Motion made by Robert Ericson to appoint Deb Decelles to the Senior Tax Work-off Program, seconded by John Goerlach. Henry Sayers abstained from vote. Motion carried 2-0.

CAI Technologies Contract – Board of Assessors

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with the CAI Technologies contract for their review and signature for the Assessor's GIS program. Motion 15-119. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the CAI Technologies contract, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#4]

Adjust amount for the LACTV2 Cable Commission Revolving Account

Mr. Sieloff informed the Board that due to the need to update the equipment the Town Accountant is recommending that this account be increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Mr. Sayers asked if this comes from franchise fees. Mr. Sieloff stated that it does and it is self-funding. Motion 15-120. Motion made by Robert Ericson to increase the LACTV Revolving Fund from \$10,000 to \$25,000, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

New Street Light Removal Proposal – Energy Committee

The Energy Committee comprised a new street light removal and upgrade list which Mr. Ericson presented to the Board for their review. The Board reviewed the list and Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Ericson not to add lights that were not approved on the last list back again. Mr. Goerlach would like the Board to go out to review the list as presented. Mr. Goerlach asked about the upgrade to the lights in front of Old Forge. Also, Mr. Sieloff stated that Vivian Montini from 22 Balance Rock Road contacted the Town relative to the street lights near her property. Ms. Montini would like these lights turned back on. Mr. Ericson said this is being taken care of with an upgrade. The list will be brought back at the next meeting for further discussion. [#5]

Library Energy Conservation Project - Energy Committee

Mr. Ericson stated that the Town needs to hire an engineer to help move forward with this project. Mr. Goerlach asked if this is something the grant will cover. Mr. Ericson stated he is checking to see if this will be reimbursed and will bring this back once he receives more information.

Police Station Furnace, Hot Water Heater and Insulation Project

Mr. Ericson stated that he has been to the station several times and progress has been made but the same problem exists as with the library as drawings are needed to move forward with the project. Mr. Ericson told DPW Director Decelles to take the roof insulation out of the specifications for the roofing bid as additional insulation is going to be added in the ceiling of the building. This can be done without approval by the Building Inspector as it does not change the structure of the building. Mr. Ericson stated that a ridge vent will also be needed. Mr. Sayers and Mr. Goerlach stated that the Town can pay to insulate the necessary walls behind the furnace so the project can move forward. Mr. Ericson stated that the hot water heater will be separate from the furnace. The Board agreed to move forward with having Mr. Sieloff and the DPW Director obtain bids for the furnace, a small hot water heater and insulation for the walls behind the furnace. Mr. Ericson stated that the roof may also need additional repairs, not just shingles and he would like to use white shingles to possibly help with excessive heat issues during the hotter months. The Board agreed to have Mr. Sieloff and the DPW Director obtain bids for the roof repairs (without roof insulation), the removal of the chimney, and installation of ridge vents.

Removal of Town Hall Dog Kennel

Mr. Sieloff discussed the kennel located in the back of Town Hall with the Board. The Animal Control Officer no longer uses this kennel. DPW Director Decelles stated part of the kennel had already been taken down. Mr. Ericson would like to remove the entire structure as it has no use, is a hazard and is rotted, but believes the concrete pad should remain and the Board agreed. Mr. Goerlach would like the caution tape removed around the library parking lot. Mr. Goerlach asked DPW Director Decelles to take care of this and add bumpers instead. DPW Director Decelles reported to the Board that a small amount of supplies had been stolen and some

vandalism had occurred on the Orebed Road waterline project. DPW Director Decelles stated that he had reported it to the Police Department and asked the Chief if he could keep up patrol in that area.

Support Letter for Hazard Mitigation Grant

Mr. Sieloff stated that he had not yet received the letter from Berkshire Regional Planning but the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan has expired. The cost would be approximately \$10,000 and a grant could be obtained for approximately \$7,500.

Approve Colonial Power Aggregation Consultant Contract

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a Consultant Agreement for Management of the Town's Municipal Aggregation Program and Energy Related Services for their review and approval. Motion 15-121. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the Consultant Agreement for Management of the Town's Municipal Aggregation Program and Energy Related Services, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#6]

Hampshire Council of Governments Technology Services

Mr. Sieloff gave the Board an update on the Town's IT services. Mr. Sieloff stated that things have been progressing smoothly and that Williamstown is now using this service. Mr. Sieloff stated that if other towns join the cost would come down.

Discussion of Impact of Retiree Health Insurance Payments to Other Towns

Mr. Sieloff reported to the Board that relative to a new law that was passed, the Town Accountant has a plan in place to bill other towns for portions of retirees' health insurance. Mr. Sayers asked what rates the Town was currently paying. Mr. Sieloff stated that the host entity determines the rate. Mr. Sayers asked how the Town can control the school's insurance costs. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Town's recourse is to appeal to the School Board to take fiscal responsibility. Mr. Sayers asked Mr. Sieloff if the Town could allocate this money directly to the School and make them responsible for their own costs. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would talk to the Town Accountant about this possibility.

Quarterly review of Board's Open Projects List

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with an updated list of open projects for their review. Mr. Goerlach asked DPW Director Decelles about the Town's gravel bed. DPW Director Decelles stated that it is getting low and the Town will have to either buy more or use another gravel bed. Mr. Goerlach stated that Mr. Condron has an old gravel bed across from the landfill that he would sell to the Town. Mr. Goerlach said that Mr. Condron had given Mr. Sieloff the approximate value of this gravel bed about a year ago. Mr. Sieloff will check on this. Mr. Sayers asked DPW Director Decelles about Sunrise Street. DPW Director Decelles stated that most of the remaining work to be completed is the responsibility of Water District. Mr. Sieloff stated that the engineer, Mike Kulig is coming to review the drainage issues with the DPW Director. An easement will have to be obtained and Conservation Commission may need to be involved. Mr. Sayers asked the DPW Director to speak with the engineer about a maintenance plan for the Town beach. Mr. Sayers wants to reshape the beach by taking out the existing sand and refreshing it with new sand. Mr. Goerlach asked the DPW Director about Summer Street and if there were any grant possibilities (i.e. safe roads for schools). Mr. Sieloff stated that it is a big project and with the waterline project underway this should probably be addressed with next year's budget. Mr. Sayers stated that the Town should think about running the waterline to Berkshire Village if the Summer Street road work extends that far. Mr. Sayers asked the DPW Director what could be done to prevent the septic system from freezing at the Town Hall. DPW Director Decelles stated that the problem last year was that the cover on D-box caved in. DPW Director Decelles also stated that he intends to keep snow on top of tank to keep it insulated and hopefully this will rectify the problem. The Board reviewed the remainder of the list and made their recommendations as to how to proceed with certain projects. [#7]

Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting.

Mr. Ericson provided the Board with a summary of the Elementary School energy conservation project with WMECO and Advanced Energy Group for their review. Motion 15-122. Motion made by Henry Sayers to accept the contract with WMECO and Advanced Energy Group, seconded by John Goerlach. Unanimously voted. [#8]

Selectmen's Items

Henry Sayers spoke about the cost of building a new high school. Mr. Sayers stated that it would increase taxes on an average home \$350 to \$700 per year. Mr. Sayers wants to ask the building committee to do their due diligence on the cost of this project. Mr. Ericson stated that the plan will be decided on Thursday at the building committee meeting. Mr. Ericson provided the Board with a list of possible ways to save money though energy conservation at the high school for their review. Mr. Goerlach reviewed the copy of the Road Opening Permit that the Water District filed with the Town for Sunrise Street. Attached to this application was a list of conditions that the Water District has failed to meet (i.e. Water Department and the Town will work on a joint paving effort when the project is complete). Mr. Sieloff stated that he has not discussed paving the road with the Water District but will remind them of their responsibilities once the water line is complete. Mr. Goerlach stated that it was reported to him that the gates at the Brookhouse is being left open. Mr. Goerlach stated that he spoke with the owner who is going to change the spring closures to take care of this. Mr. Ericson stated that he is going to talk to the Building Inspector about ballards at the front entrance of the building. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Building Inspector and the Health Agent went to the Brookhouse regarding a report of refuse and stated that everything looked fine. Mr. Ericson stated that there is garbage in the area but doesn't know if it is on their property and Mr. Sieloff stated this it is not the responsibility of the Building Inspector or the Board of Health if it is not on the property. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would call the Brookhouse to have them look at the south side of property. Mr. Goerlach spoke about the fowl on the Narragansett Avenue. Mr. Goerlach stated that he was not able to reach the resident and would like to have her come to the next meeting to discuss this issue as 80 ducks is excessive to have on the property. Mr. Ericson stated that residents are entitled to have livestock. Mr. Goerlach stated that he is waiting to hear from Town Counsel.

Town Administrator Report

Mr. Sieloff stated that he received a letter from a resident regarding safety issues with horseback riders. Mr. Sieloff stated that he talked to the Police Chief. Mr. Sieloff stated that there are signs currently in place but the resident would like more signage on North Main Street. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff to check with the DPW Director about placing more signs but at the resident's expense. Mr. Sieloff stated that he will talk to Chief Sorrell about additional patrol in the area. Mr. Sieloff reported to the Board that there is a Kinder Morgan meeting tomorrow at Taconic High School which he is attending. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff to inquire about how it will impact the Town's water. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Water District has a presentation on this issue.

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Minutes of July 13, 2015, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Henry Sayers, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Footnotes:

- [#1] The Virginia Company, Inc. d/b/a Arizona Pizza approval of Alternation of Premises License – Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission
- [#2] Entertainment License – Ramblewild
- [#3] Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property – Child Care of the Berkshires Book Mobile
- [#4] CAI Technologies Contract
- [#5] Energy Committee List of Recommendations for Removal and Upgrade of Street Lights
- [#6] Consultant Agreement for Management of the Municipal Aggregation Program and Energy Related Services
- [#7] Open Projects List
- [#8] Energy Committee Summary – Elementary School Energy Conservation Project